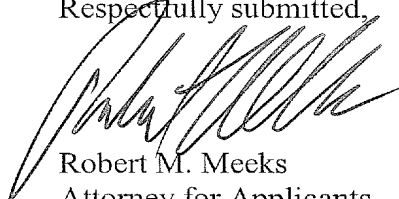


REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the detailed examination evidenced by the Final Office Action mailed May 31, 2007 (hereinafter "Final Office Action"), and more particularly, the indication that Claims 2, 3, 8, 9, 15, 16, 18, 22, 25, 26, 28, 37, 38, 41, 42 and 44 recite patentable subject matter. In response, Applicants have rewritten Claims 2, 8, 9, 15, 18, 22, 25, 37, 41 and 44 to independent form, incorporating the recitations of base and intervening claims, thus placing these claims in condition for allowance. Claims 1, 14, 19, 24, 36 and 40 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants have amended independent Claim 32 to include recitations along the lines of Claim 2, and Applicants submit that amended independent Claim 32 is patentable for at least similar reasons to those supporting the patentability of Claim 2. Dependent Claims 3, 5, 7, 10-13, 16, 17, 20, 23, 26-31, 42 and 43 have been amended in keeping with the above amendments, and are patentable at least by virtue of the patentability of the independent claims from which they depend.

Applicants request entry of these amendments, as they introduce no new matter, raise no new issues and place the claims in condition for allowance. Applicants, therefore, request allowance of the claims and passing of the application to issue in due course. The Examiner is encouraged contact the undersigned at 919-854-1400 for resolution of any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

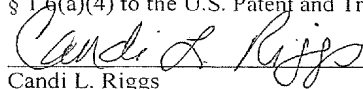


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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 20, 2007.


Candi L. Riggs